

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Date: 1/30/2015

GAIN Report Number: IN5013

India

Post: New Delhi

Compliance Date Extended on Packaging and Labeling Regulations

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Oilseeds and Products

FAIRS Subject Report

Exporter Guide

Approved By:

Jonn Slette

Prepared By:

Radha Mani

Report Highlights:

The Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) postponed additional labeling requirements for pre-packaged foods, edible oils, and fats, until December 31, 2015.

Executive Summary:

Previously, FSSAI notified that it would enforce additional labeling requirements for pre-packaged food, edible oils, and fats as of December 6, 2013. However, the enforcement date was never implemented and the regulation was essentially dormant for over one year. In December, FSSAI recently announced that it would postpone the date of implementation to December 31, 2015.

General Information:

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from FSSAI's website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government makes no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

Introduction:

On December 17, 2014, FSSAI issued a notification to postpone the enforcement date for additional labeling requirements for pre-packaged food, edible oils, and fats until December 31, 2015. Previously, FSSAI had announced the enforcement date as December 6, 2013. However, this enforcement date was never actually enforced. After a year of no movement or additional clarity, FSSAI announced it would further postpone the date of implementation until December 31, 2015.

Background:

On July 9, 2013, FSSAI published the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products and Food Additives) Regulations, 2013, and Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labeling) Regulations, 2013. Both amendments were published under the same notification number: No. P.15014/2011-PFA/FSSAI.

On August 23, 2013, FSSAI published an advisory which provided food Business operators (FBOs) with an extension until December 6, 2013 to comply with Notification No. P.15014/2011-PFA/FSSAI. However, the advisory did not specifically indicate whether the extension applied to Food Product Standards and Food Additives, 2013, or the Packaging and Labeling Regulations, 2013.

On September 5, 2013, FSSAI issued an additional advisory which clarified that the December 6, 2013 extension applies to the Packaging and Labeling Regulation, 2013, and *not* to the Food Product Standards and Additives, 2013.

The present notification and the background documents are attached at the end of this report and can also be accessed on FSSAI website at <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>

The 17th December, 2014

ORDER

Subject: Extending time period for complying with the requirements under the Gazette Notifications No. P 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI dated 27.06.2013

Reference is drawn to the notification no. P 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI dated 27.06.2013 published in the Official Gazette of India (Extraordinary) amending the FSS (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 regarding the declaration of trans fat and saturated fat on the label. Extension in time period until 06.12.2013 for implementation of said notification was given vide advisory dated 23.08.2013 and a clarification to the advisory was also issued dated 30.06.2014 stating that the extension of time period for complying with provisions of the said notifications upto 6th December, 2013 is only for the amendments related to FSS (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011.

It is hereby informed to all the concerned that the time period granted to Food Business Operators for complying with the provisions of the said notification amending the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 is, hereby, further extended upto 31.12.2015.


(S. Dave)
Advisor

To:

1. All the Food Safety Commissioners of States/UTs
2. Additional Food safety Commissioners for Railways and APHO/PHO
3. Central Licensing Authority/Authorized Officers of FSSAI.

Copy to:

1. JD(M)with a request to keep a copy in Library.
2. Guard File of Enforcement Division.

F. No. 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare)
Government of India

FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road,
New Delhi-110002
5th September, 2013

CLARIFICATION TO ADVISORY ISSUED ON 23.8.2013

Subject: Extending time period for complying with requirements under the Gazette Notifications No. P. 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI, dated 27.6.2013.

Reference is drawn to FSSAI's Advisory dated 23-08-2013 granting extension of time period for complying with provisions of amendments under Notifications No. P. 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI dated 27.6.2013 published in Official Gazette of India (Extraordinary) dated 9.7.2013. In this regard, it is informed to all concerned that the extension of time period granted for complying with provisions of the said Notifications upto 6th December, 2013 is only for the amendments related to '**Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011**'.


(P. Karthikeyan)
Assistant Director (QA &S)
011-23237419

To

1. All State/UT Food Safety Commissioners;
2. Central Designated Officers;
3. PPS to Chairperson; and
4. PS to CEO.

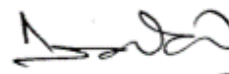
F. No. 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare)
Government of India

FDA Bhavan, Kotla Road,
New Delhi-110002
23rd August, 2013

ADVISORY

Subject: Extending time period for complying with requirements under the Notifications No. P. 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI, published in Official Gazette on 27.7.2013.

With reference to Notifications No. P. 15014/1/2011-PFA/FSSAI dated 27.6.2013 published in Official Gazette of India (Extraordinary) dated 9.7.2013, it is hereby informed to all concerned that the time period granted to Food Business Operators for complying with provisions of the said Notifications is extended upto 6th December, 2013.


(Col. C.R. Dalal)
Director (Enforcement)
011-23237442

To

All State/UT Food Safety Commissioners;
Central Designated Officers;
PPS to Chairperson; and
PS to CEO.